

Claims

what is claimed is:

- Handwritten: A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z*
1. Connecting element for joining two support members (2, 3) absorbing tensile forces, which connecting element (1) comprises at least a first and a second casing body (5, 6) with a through-hole (7) for receiving the respective support members (2, 3), which casing bodies (5, 6) can be joined together by way of a joining section (9) at a first end (11) of each casing body (5, 6), the opposing second end (13) of each casing body (5, 6) being provided with locking members (15, 16) for holding the support members (2, 3) fast, **characterized in that** in a working position the locking member (15, 16) of at least one casing body (5, 6) produces an axial locking of the support member (2, 3) running through the casing body (5, 6) by way of a stop part (20) created on the support member (2, 3) within the area of the second end (13) of the casing body (5, 6).
 2. Connecting element according to claim 1, **characterized in that** the stop part (20) is an upset part produced on the support member (2, 3) and having a diameter larger than the diameter of the support member (2, 3).
 3. Connecting element according to claim 1 or 2, **characterized in that** the through-hole (7) is of stepped design with a first shoulder (26), against which the stop part (20) rests.
 4. Connecting element according to claim 3, **characterized in that** the first shoulder (26) has a bevel (25) against which the stop part (20) rests.
 5. Connecting element according to claim 1 or 2, **characterized in that** the locking member (15, 16) comprises at last two casing parts (17, 18) which in the working position form a stop casing (22), which forms a second shoulder (26'), against which the stop part (20) rests.

6. Connecting element according to claim 5, **characterized in that** the second shoulder (26') is formed inside the stop casing (22).
- 5 7. Connecting element according to any of the preceding claims, **characterized in that** the first joining section (9) of the casing body (5, 6) comprises means (25) for joining the casing body (5, 6) to an intermediate part (27).
- 10 8. Connecting element according to any of the preceding claims, **characterized in that** in a working position a recess (29) in the casing (5, 6), viewed in the longitudinal direction of the casing body (5, 6) and the intermediate part (27), aligns with a fixing unit (31) and encloses the casing body (5, 6), the fixing unit (31) being arranged so that it can be
15 fixed to the intermediate part (27) , and a projecting member (33) of the fixing unit (31) being accommodated by the said recess (29), so that the casing body (5, 6) can be torsionally locked to the intermediate part (27).
9. Connecting element according to claim 8, **characterized in that** the
20 projecting member (33) of the fixing unit (31) can be released so that it is not accommodated by the said recess (29), thereby allowing the casing body (5, 6) to be released from the intermediate part (27).
10. Connecting element according to any of the preceding claims,
25 **characterized in that** the joining section (10) of at least one casing body (5, 6) is torsionally locked by means of a locking pin (35), which can be inserted through a hole (36) through the casing body (5, 6) and the intermediate part (27).

11. Method for fitting a support member (2, 3) to a building construction by means of a connecting element (1) according to any of the preceding claims, characterized by the following stages: passing of a draw wire (2) through a cable duct (56) together with the connecting element (1) so that the connecting element (1) finishes up in an area of a first foundation (54); connection of a bracing wire (3) to the connecting element (1) coupled to the draw wire (2); passing of the bracing wire (3) through the cable duct (56) in the opposite direction by means of the draw wire (2) and the coupled connecting element (1), so that the connecting element (1) finishes up in an area of a second foundation (52); fastening of the bracing wire (3) to the first or second foundation (54, 52); detachment of the connecting element (1) from the bracing wire (3).
12. Method according to claim 11, characterized by the following stages: application of at least one casing body (5, 6) over a stop part (20) produced on each support member (2, 3); fitting of at least two casing parts (17, 18) around each support member (2, 3); drawing of each support member (2, 3) so that the stop part (20, 21) bears against the casing parts (17, 18), which casing parts (17, 18) in the working position rest against an internal shoulder (26) in the through-hole (7) whilst the stop part (20, 21) rests against the casing parts (17, 18) in order to produce an axial locking of the wire ends (2, 3); and joining of at least one casing body (5, 6) to an intermediate part (30).
13. Method according to claim 12, characterized by the further stages: torsional locking of at least one casing body (6) to the intermediate part (27) by means of a fixing unit (31) arranged on the intermediate part (27), which fixing unit (31) has a projecting member (33), which during coupling together is released until a recess (29) in the casing body (6), viewed in the longitudinal direction of the casing body (6) and the

intermediate part (30), aligns with the fixing unit (31) and encloses the latter, at which time the fixing unit (31) with its projecting member (33) is brought into engagement with the said recess (29).

- 5 14. Method according to claim 13, characterized by the further stages: torsional locking of at least one casing body (5, 6) to the intermediate part (27) by means of a locking pin (35).

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